

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
MAY 12, 2005 Meeting**

**World Golf Village, St. Augustine, Florida**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARING**

**FCCDHH Members Attending:** Chris Wagner, Julie Church, Evy Friend, Eloise Williams, Carolyn Franklin, Lisa Schaefermeyer, Sarah Harris, Rick Kottler, Stan Gustetic, Tanya Ward English, Joan Haber, Carol Christopherson, Joe Naulty, Evan Goldman, and John Jackson. Karen Anderson, staff, was also present.

**FCCDHH Members Absent:** Laurie Gaylord, Randy Ellsworth

Call to Order 1:06 pm

Welcome by Chris Wagner, Chair. FCCDHH members introduced themselves. Interpreters, sound technician, and CART providers were introduced. A warm welcome was extended to John Jackson as the new member to FCCDHH appointed by the Department of Children and Families.

The Legislative Committee and the Information and Referral Committee met.

Council members discussed how best to approach developing a white paper on emergency preparedness. Stan offered to receive resources from Council members that address emergency preparedness issues.

Public Hearing convened at 3:39

Introductions of all FCCDHH members

Purpose of Public Hearing presented by Chris Wagner, Chair of FCCDHH

Comments were provided by 12 members of the public.

Chris Wagner thanked all public attendees for their comments and described the next actions of the FCCDHH in response to the comments.

Stan offered to provide tours of FSDB to all interested members.

Recess until Friday, May 13, 2005 at 8:00 am

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
MAY 12, 2005 Meeting**

**World Golf Village, St. Augustine, Florida**

**Summary of approvals/action items:**

- Members will send their information on emergency preparedness to Stan.
- Chris, Evan and Julie will pull more information together and develop an Interpreter Expense Trust Fund proposal for a possible pilot project in the Tampa Bay area at the August meeting.
- Future products of the Council would continue to reflect employment issues and a member of DVR will be invited to participate during the development process of information about employment issues.
- Chris will write a formal letter of response to DVR and invite someone to present to the Council at the next meeting describing how they serve individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf-blind.
- Chris will talk with Evy about inviting someone from Division of Blind Services to present to the Council on how deaf-blind individuals are served.
- Chris and Rick will work together to contact the Florida Hospital Association to set up a meeting to strategize how the issue can be addressed. Evan and John, Lisa, Rick, Chris, Joan, Bobbi Allan from the Orlando CIL were designated as committee members to work on hospital access issues.
- Joan will collect information on movie captioning issues to post on the website. The Council will provide full support of all advocacy efforts with the film studios and movie theatre associations.
- Evan will supply members with a matrix of who their legislators are and a 'tool box' of how to contact the legislators and making them aware of the council and its role and responsibilities.
- Chris will write a letter that will go to (1) all county emergency management offices (2) Craig Fugate (3) Governor Bush (4) contacts of organizations related to deaf/hard of hearing (5) TV stations emphasizing and reminding them to remember services to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, late-deafened or deaf-blind in the upcoming hurricane season and identifying the 3 TV stations in the state that did an exemplary job in providing emergency communication accessibility during the 2004 hurricane season.
- Members will submit written materials for the website to Tanya. Julie will edit the materials and will return the edited materials to the people who submitted them. Once they are approved by the people who submitted the original materials they will be submitted to Dave at Ecisive. Members are directed to look at the website as the materials are uploaded to the 'non-live' site. It was decided that the website would go live on June 15<sup>th</sup> with the information that has been submitted with an "UNDER CONSTRUCTION" message. When materials are obtained from outside sources the members will obtain a signed permission form from the authors.
- Evan Goldman agreed to develop a permission or waiver form for website submissions.
- The office of Chair of the Council expires at the end of the year. Carol motioned that Chris and Joan retain their positions as Chair and Vice Chair for the 2005-2006.
- Stan, Eloise, Chris will serve on a newly established Budget Committee to set up defined expense categories within the budget for the 2005-2006 fiscal year.
- The person from the DOH MQA office who did not attend to present at the May meeting will be invited to present at the August meeting to provide information on the complaint reporting and resolution procedures.

**2005-2006 calendar:**

- **Meeting Date 1: Pensacola on August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>**
- **Meeting Date 2: Ft. Myers on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>**
- **Meeting Date 3: Orlando on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>**
- **Meeting Date 4: Miami (Kendall area) on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>**

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
MAY 13, 2005 Meeting**

**World Golf Village, St. Augustine, Florida**

**FCCDHH Members Attending:** Chris Wagner, Julie Church, Evy Friend, Eloise Williams, Carolyn Franklin, Lisa Schaefermeyer, Sarah Harris, Rick Kottler, Stan Gustetic, Tanya Ward English, Joan Haber, Carol Christopherson, Joe Naulty, Evan Goldman, and John Jackson. Karen Anderson, staff, was also present.

**FCCDHH Members Absent:** Laurie Gaylord; Randy Ellsworth

I. Call to Order at 8:13 am

a) Chris Wagner welcomed everyone and all members introduced themselves.

-Evan publicly thanked Stan for the tour of the Florida School for the Deaf

b) March 10-11, 2005 minutes were reviewed and minor revisions suggested.

Rick motioned to approve, Julie seconded, all voted in favor of approving minutes

c) Financial Report/Status was presented by Karen

Sarah made a motion to accept the budget, Rick seconded, all approved.

II. Trust Fund Information was presented by Evan

-Relayed the experiences in Rochester NY where the Monroe County Bar Bar Association reimburses any attorney the entire amount of the initial client meeting up to 2 hours and subsequent meetings are reimbursed up to 50% of interpreters services to a maximum of \$150 per client for interpreter expenses. Evan suggested that the council pursue setting up a pilot project as a 'community based approach to a common problem'. Julie stated that the Tampa area has 2 strong community foundations. Chris, Evan and Julie will develop a proposal for a pilot project in the Tampa Bay area to be presented at the August meeting.

III. Update on Florida Rehabilitation Council Meeting by Chris

-Chris reported his recent presentation to the Florida Rehabilitation Council and their concerns about what the FCCDHH 2005 report said about DVR.

Discrepancies in data and how it was collected by DVR were discussed at that meeting. Chris agreed that future products of the Council would continue to reflect employment issues and that a member of DVR would be invited to participate during the development process. Rick suggested that DVR be invited to the next meeting to educate the members about their services.

IV. Public Hearing Review and Discussion

Issues raised during the public comment session were summarized.

V. Follow-up – Broward County Issues

A. The Clerk of the Courts in Broward County and Chris discussed the issue raised about not providing interpreters and a staff person will be following up on the issue and will report back to Chris in the next couple of weeks.

B. Tanya followed up with the Para-Transit company in Broward. The Para-Transit application does not include 'hearing disability' in the list of disabilities. Sarah commented that this is the same at other similar companies.

#### VI. Medical Accessibility Issues were presented by Rick

-Rick shared two pieces of information: (1) Consent Degree Regarding Health Care Services to People Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing from Connecticut and (2) Department of Justice ADA Business Brief. The hospital concern is related to liability and risk management. The DOJ Brief covers the requirements that hospitals must follow. Chris and Rick will work together to contact the Florida Hospital Association to set up a meeting to strategize how the issue can be addressed. Lisa, Rick, Chris, Joan, Bobbi from the Orlando Center for Independent Living were designated as committee members to work on the hospital access issues, with Evan participating when possible.

#### VII. Movie Captioning Issues presented by Joan Haber

-Joan presented information on the basic ways in which movies are captioned and how theatres provide captioned showings and advertise show times. Joan will collect information related to captioning technologies and availability to post on the website. The Council will provide full support of all advocacy efforts with the film studios and movie theatre associations.

#### VIII. Licensure Task Force Update was presented by Lisa

- Lisa requested that a meeting occur in June 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> for the interpreter portion of the task force. The next meeting would be in July for the larger group (CART and interpreter services) with the purpose of drafting a final version of the report at their full meeting in September. It is possible that the task force may need to meet monthly as they get closer to the January 1 report deadline.

#### IX. Legislative Update

- A. Evan reported that 3 bills that the FCCDHH supported have passed.
  1. Statute establishing the Children's Hearing Help Fund check off on the driver's license renewal.
  2. Statute requiring interagency agreements to ensure that individuals with disabilities are allowed to retain their assistive devices as they transition into different settings.
  3. Statute defining service animals and their use.
- B. The committee discussed the importance of members meeting with individual legislators. Evan will supply members with a matrix of who their legislators are and a 'tool box' of how to contact the legislators and making them aware of the council and its role and responsibilities.
- C. Issues to be focused on for 2006 include going back and trying to get more action on the Service Animal bill. The council may want to consider legislation that deals with interpreter credentialing and licensing. It may also want to focus on increasing or continuing funding for the FCCDHH.
- D. Julie brought up the issue of beginning the legislative process of adding deafness and communication accessibility to the qualifiers used by state agencies in determining disability benefits. Currently, many programs don't include deafness as a qualifying condition. Finally, the council could focus on improving communication accessibility in the state capitol.

#### X. Emergency Preparedness

Chris requested that the council support the writing of a letter that would go to all of the emergency management offices, emphasizing and reminding them to

remember services to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, late-deafened or deaf-blind in the upcoming hurricane season.

#### XI. Report on Progress on Developing PSA, Website, and Materials by Tanya

- A. Tanya introduced Dan Kossoff, developer of the PSA and Dorothy Hesson, consultant assisting with the development of the website and Dave Hyers from Ecsive whose company will be developing the actual website.
- B. Dan Kossoff presented a sample of the video clips that were filmed during the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Members provided Mr. Kossoff with their reactions and input on the film clip montage he provided.
- C. Dorothy Hesson presented a PowerPoint that she developed in conjunction with Dave Hyers from Ecsive. Members discussed two versions of the 'look' of the website and provided input into additional information that they would like to see included on the website.
- D. Members will submit written materials to Tanya. Julie will edit the materials and will return the edited materials to the people who submitted them. Once they are approved by the people who submitted the original materials they will be submitted to Dave Hyers at Ecsive. Members are directed to look at the website as the materials are uploaded to the 'non-live' site.
- E. The website would go live on June 15<sup>th</sup> with the information that has been submitted with an "UNDER CONSTRUCTION" message. When materials are obtained from outside sources the members will obtain a signed permission form from the authors.
- F. Evan Goldman agreed to develop a permission or waiver form for website submissions.

#### XII. New Business

- A. Vacant staff duties and expectations: Assistant to the Council: clerical work for travel reimbursement, generating purchase orders, uploading and management of website materials, computer literacy and willingness to learn (Windows and savvy on the internet), meeting set up experience, update budget, ability to travel to meetings, taking meeting minutes.
- B. Tanya made the motion to set up a Budget Committee, Lisa seconded the motion. Stan, Eloise, Chris were put forward as members to be on the Budget Committee. Stan will set up an encumbered budget amount for the committee and task force meetings and teleconferences. Unanimous approval in the establishment of a Budget Committee.
- C. Chris brought up that the office of Chair of the Council expires at the end of the year. Carol motioned that Chris and Joan retain their positions as Chair and Vice Chair for the 2005-2006. John seconded. Unanimous approval.
- D. Joan made a motion to allocate up to \$25,000 for the purchase of cable media time for TV stations and up to \$15,000 for the purchase of radio time for 2 areas in the state out of the existing 2004-2005 budget, based on allocation availability within the purchase requisition process at the Department of Health. Sarah seconded the motion. Dan Kossoff provided information on the manner in which air time is purchased. Unanimous approval by members for media purchase.
- E. 2005-2006 Calendar
  1. Sarah made a motion that the Council meet quarterly and Lisa seconded. Unanimous approval.
  2. Meeting Dates were discussed with the following dates set:
    - i. Meeting Date 1: Pensacola on August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>

- ii. Meeting Date 2: Ft. Myers on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>
  - iii. Meeting Date 3: Orlando on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>
  - iv. Meeting Date 4: Miami (Kendall area) on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
- F. Tanya provided praise for Carol's recent presentation at the ALDA meeting. A request was made for Carol Christopherson to present at the next council meeting.
- G. MQA will be requested to present at the next meeting as they did not attend the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting as requested to present the complaint procedures
- H. Tanya suggested that information on Realtime Captioning be presented by AmeriCaption at a future meeting that is convenient to AmeriCaption.

### XIII. Announcements

- a) Sarah and Chris will attend the upcoming FAD conference and will present on the FCCDHH
- b) Tanya and Gayl Hardeman are presenting on CART on June 24-26
- c) Florida Council on Exceptional Children will be meeting in October
- d) Department of Education will be rolling out a professional education program addressing reading needs of students with special needs, including those who are deaf and hard of hearing
- e) Service animal presentations for children will be occurring at Duval and Clay county libraries this summer

### XIV. Meeting adjournment at 3:45